

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-20 IGA-02 H-03 DEAE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-03

TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-07 SCI-06 OMB-01 DRC-01 /106 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6208

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 0754

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, UY

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR FUNDS FOR NARCOTICS OPERATIONS

ATTN: AMBASSADOR HANDLEY, S/NM

A.P. SHANKLE, ARA

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY REQUESTS ALLOCATION OF AN ADDITIONAL \$1,000 MONTHLY FOR NARCOTICS OPERATIONS IN URUGUAY. FUNDS, NEEDED TO SUPPLEMENT PRESENT AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FROM DEA, WOULD BE UNDER CONTROL OF SAIC AND WOULD BE USED FOR PURCHASE OF INFORMATION AND EVIDENCE AND ESTABLISHING INTELLIGENCE UNITS OUTSIDE MONTEVIDEO.

2. IN ADDITION TO ITS OWN OPERATIONAL COSTS, DEA HAS BEEN SUPPLYING FUNDS TO GOU'S POLICE NARCOTICS BRIGADE FOR PURCHASE OF INFORMATION, AND EVIDENCE, AND OTHER INVESTIGATIVE COSTS, ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY FOR INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED AT DEA REQUEST. NOW, HOWEVER, ADDITIONAL FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000 PER MONTH ARE REQUIRED TO SUSTAIN AND EXPAND OPERATIONS.

3. INFLATION IN URUGUAY SINCE BEGINNING OF 1973 HAS AMOUNTED TO MORE THAN 100 PERCENT. GAS IS NOW US \$2.25 PER GALLON, SALARIES HAVE BEEN RAISED 83 PERCENT SINCE JULY AND DEA
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FUNDS AVAILABLE HAVE BARELY SUSTAINED EXISTING NARCOTICS

BRIGADE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN OUR BEHALF.

4. BRIGADE OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN HAMPERED ALSO BY LACK OF FUNDS TO MAKE LARGE BUYS WHICH COULD LEAD TO MAJOR SEIZURES. WITH THE SMALL AMOUNTS OF MONEY AVAILABLE, POLICE NARCOTICS AGENTS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE A FEW MINUTE PURCHASES BUT NEVER ABLE TO SET UP THE LARGER BUYS NEEDED FOR A SIGNIFICANT OPERATION. A COROLLARY HAS BEEN DIMINISHED MORALE AMONG NARCOTICS AGENTS.

5. A SECOND DEA AGENT IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN URUGUAY. ONCE HE IS IN COUNTRY WE PLAN TO SET UP INTELLIGENCE UNITS IN PUNTA DEL ESTE, COLONIA AND OTHER PROBABLE TRANSSHIPMENT POINTS. WE CANNOT DO SO UNDER PRESENT LIMITED FUNDING.

6. THE GOU PROVIDES SALARIES, SPACE, SUPPLIES, OTHER SUPPORT AND SOME PER DIEM TO THE NARCOTICS BRIGADE. IT ALSO HAS COOPERATED TO THE FULLEST WITH OUR NARCOTICS OPERATIONS, INCLUDING EXPULSION OF VIOLATORS WANTED BY US AUTHORITIES. I MET RECENTLY WITH THE NEWLY-NAMED MINISTER OF INTERIOR WHO ASSURED ME OF HIS DESIRE TO CONTINUE THE COOPERATION WE HAVE OBTAINED FROM THE GOU IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKERS.

7. GIVEN THE NEED, THE OPPORTUNITY AND THE CONTINUING GOU COMMITMENT IN THE FIELD, I HOPE THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN OUR NARCOTICS OPERATIONS. FOLLOWING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF THE DEA BUDGET AND THAT AGENCY'S ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES TO ITS FIELD OFFICES, I WILL REVIEW OUR REQUIREMENTS AGAIN.

8. THIS MESSAGE HAS THE CONCURRENCE OF ALL AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES ON THIS MISSION'S NARCOTICS COMMITTEE.
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